

SALEM YOUTH SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

MOZART PLAYERS · AMADEUS PLAYERS · PHILHARMONIA · YOUTH SYMPHONY

NEW Audition Process for Amadeus and Philharmonia Strings 2024-2025

Preparation Suggestions

String auditions will be played for a panel of up to 4 directors, using an updated music packet. The new music packet is formatted to include both Amadeus and Philharmonia skill requirements, which will facilitate director assessment and still allow students to audition for their preferred ensemble.

Students auditioning for Amadeus Players will prepare scales #1-2 and excerpts #1-2. Students auditioning for Philharmonia will prepare scales #1-3 and excerpts #1-3. All students will be asked to sight reading during the audition.

1. We recommend that you print out all excerpts and scales for your respective instrument. Play through them, take them to your classroom or private teacher, and decide which excerpts you want to prepare for your audition. Selecting excerpts is no guarantee that you will qualify for that orchestra. If you are unable to demonstrate proficiency on your chosen excerpts, you will be placed in an ensemble that is a better fit.
2. It is important that you prepare/select the excerpts that you are going to be able to play with great intonation, rhythmic precision, a steady tempo (at the metronome markings indicated), and all dynamics, articulations, style, and bow stroke considerations.
3. Avoid picking excerpts that are too difficult for you. You might have big goals to be in a certain ensemble, but if you pick music that is beyond your abilities, it only shows us that you are not ready to play the level of music which that ensemble plays. We want everyone to have a solid confident audition.
4. **Play all excerpts and scales within the tempo range indicated on the page.** Playing excerpts too slowly or with hesitations/tempo changes will significantly affect your audition results. If you start an excerpt below or above the tempo range indicated, you might be stopped and asked to start over again within the indicated range. Be sure to practice with a metronome.
5. Be sure to adhere to all bowings marked in the excerpt. Fingerings are suggestions and are not mandatory, but the marked bowings are required.
6. For sightreading we will provide you with an excerpt. You will get a short, specified amount of time to look at the passage. Check the key signature, time signature, markings, and scan the passage for any trouble spots before performing it.

VIOLA AUDITION PACKET 2024-2025

Amadeus Players and Philharmonia

Students auditioning for Amadeus Players and Philharmonia will be playing for a panel of up to 4 directors. Auditions will include **scales, excerpts and sight reading** and last 10 minutes or less.

Amadeus Players Audition Material - scales #1-2, excerpts #1-2, and sight reading

Philharmonia Audition Material - scales #1-3, excerpts #1-3, and sight reading

SCALE #1: A Major - 1 Octave

$\text{♩} = 120$



SCALE #2: G Major - 2 Octaves

$\text{♩} = 120$



SCALE #3: Eb Major - 2 Octaves

$\text{♩} = 120$



EXCERPT #1

$\text{♩} = 56$

5

EXCERPT #2

Marche Militaire (Saint-Saens arr Isaac)

6 $\text{Half note} = 104$ 2

11 *ff*

16

EXCERPT #3

$\text{♩} = 80$

mf *simile*

7

14

SIGHT READING (to be handed out during audition)